

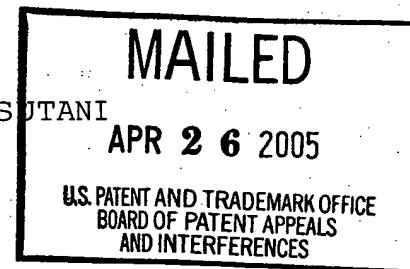
The opinion in support of the decision being entered today was not written for publication in a law journal and is not binding precedent of the Board.

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS  
AND INTERFERENCES  
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Ex parte: YASUSHI KOHNO and NORITOSHI KATSUTANI

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Application No. 09/837,020  
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ORDER RETURNING UNDOCKETED APPEAL TO EXAMINER  
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This application was received at the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences on March 16, 2005. A review of the application has revealed that the application is not ready for docketing as an appeal. Accordingly, the application is herewith being returned to the Examiner. The matters requiring attention prior to docketing are identified below.

A Reply Brief in response to the Examiner's Answer dated March 12, 2004, was filed on May 10, 2004. However, a review

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the Image File Wrapper (IFW) reveals that the Reply Brief has not been considered or acknowledged by the examiner.

A written communication notifying appellant of the Examiner's receipt and consideration of the Reply Brief is required.

Accordingly, it is


**Ordered** that the application is returned to the Examiner for

1) acknowledgment and consideration of the Reply Brief;

and

2) for any further action as may be appropriate.

BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS  
AND INTERFERENCES

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Application No. 09/837,020

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